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50X1-HUM

Title: COMMITTEE ON STATE RESERVES ATTACHED TO THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, USSR by Kyril Alexeyev

Source: Komitet po Gosudarstvennym Rezervam pri Sovete Ministerov, SSSR

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[redacted]

This publication is a translation of a report by Kyril Alexeyev, a Soviet defector. Mr. Alexeyev and his wife are both metallurgical engineers with wide experience in nonferrous metals and, apparently, occupied important positions in the metallurgical industry of the Soviet Union. The two have been interviewed by the Army in 1947 and 1948. Reports of these interviews, as well as the original of this translation, are in custody of the Economic Section, Technical Branch, Intelligence Division, GSUSA.

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COMMITTEE ON STATE RESERVES ATTACHED TO THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS USSR

SECRET

In 1938, at the end of the year, a Committee on State Reserves was created under the Council of People's Commissars USSR (now Council of Ministers USSR).

The purpose of the Committee on State Reserves is to supply the whole national economy and the defense system with materials and equipment in the event of war.

The Committee on State Reserves accumulates and stores stocks of strategic materials and technical equipment which can be used only when necessary in time of war and upon the instructions of the supreme command of the country's defense.

The Committee is headed by a chairman and three deputies, who direct all operational-economic activity within their competence in strict accordance with the over-all national economic and defense plans including the industrial mobilization plan.

In its work the Committee has close contact with the [redacted] supreme organ of the national economy, the Council of Ministers, and the State Planning Commission, the Supreme Military Command, and the General Staff (of all branches of the army); and is under the political supervision of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party. The supervisory staff of the Committee on State Reserves is appointed by the Politburo.

Organization of the Committee on State Reserves

1. The Committee attached to the Council of Ministers USSR works out the national plan for the mobilization of industry and the accumulation of strategic reserves and puts it into effect. Subordinate to this Committee are committees on state reserves for republics, autonomous republics, krays, and oblasts.

The Committee attached to the Council of Ministers of the USSR has the right to interfere directly in the work of its subordinate republic, krai and oblast committees. It is responsible to the Politburo and the

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Council of Ministers for the performance of its duties.

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2. Republic, krey, and oblast committees on state reserves perform the same functions within their own republics, kreys, and oblasts.

3. Oblast committees exercise supervision over city and rayon state reserves committees which work through special agents.

With respect to stockpiling strategic materials and the industrial mobilization plan, defense industry is directly subordinate to the Committee on State Reserves attached to the Council of Ministers USSR, which has its own agents in the form of the apparatus of the Second Section, in all plants important to defense. (Until 1939 the second Section bore the name mobilization division.) The Chief of the Second Section of a factory is subordinate to the Chief of the Second Section in a main administration, the Chief of the Second Section of the Main Administration is subordinate to the chief of the Second Section of a ministry, and the latter is subordinate through the minister, [illegible] and also directly, to the plenipotentiary agent or Chief of the Second Section of the industry to which the ministry belongs.

With regard to reserves of agricultural products and other materials, the Committee on State Reserves attached to the Council of Ministers USSR works through its agents in rayons, cities, oblasts, autonomous oblasts, kreys, and republics, with a subordination system corresponding to the administrative apparatus of the USSR. The Committee has the right to interfere directly through its special agents, in the operations of this apparatus.

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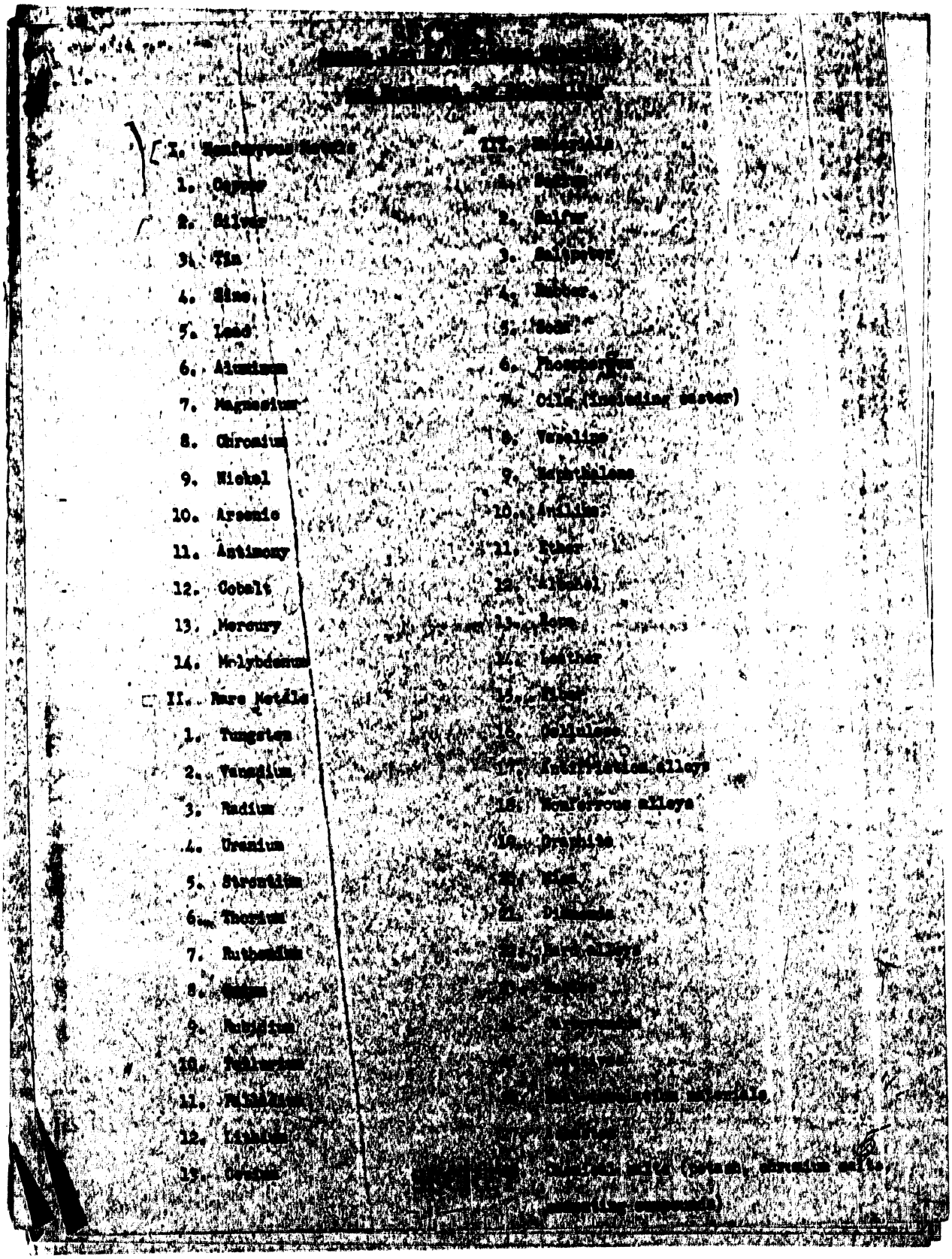

I.
1. Copper
2. Silver
3. Tin
4. Zinc
5. Lead
6. Aluminum
7. Magnesium
8. Chromium
9. Nickel
10. Arsenic
11. Antimony
12. Cobalt
13. Mercury
14. Molybdenum

II. Rare Metals
1. Tungsten
2. Vanadium
3. Radium
4. Uranium
5. Strontium
6. Thorium
7. Ruthenium
8. [illegible]
9. Tantalum
10. Tellurium
11. Palladium
12. Titanium
13. Cerium

III. Materials
1. Rubber
2. Sulfur
3. Saltpeter
4. Rubber
5. Soda
6. Phosphorus
7. Oils (including castor)
8. Vaseline
9. Naphthalene
10. Anilin
11. Ether
12. Alcohol
13. Lard
14. Leather
15. Paper
16. Celluloid
17. Anti-friction alloys
18. Nonferrous alloys
19. Graphite
20. Mica
21. Diamonds
22. Rare alloys
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29. Liquid glass
30. Cement
31. Asphalt
32. (Omitted)
33. Wood
34. Quartz
35. Acids
36. Paraffin
37. Stearin
38. Ivory black
39. Gelatin
40. Lacquers and varnishes
41. Shellac
42. Celephane
43. Iodine
44. Bromine
45. Chemical ware
46. [illegible]
47. Electrical insulating materials
48. Derivate products (briquettes, cuvettes, etc.)
49. Tar paper
50. Camera
51. Horsehair
52. Linoleum
53. Felt
54. Roofing felt
55. Tar, resin, etc.

V. Ferrous metals
1. Pig iron
2. Cast iron
3. Steel
4. Alloy steel
5. Ferrosilicon
6. Ferrosilicon
7. Liquid Fuel
1. High-octane gasoline
2. Automobile gasoline
3. Gasoline (gasoline?)
4. Kerosene
5, 6, 7, (omitted)
8. Masut
9. Asphalt
10. Crude petroleum
VI. Hard fuel
1. Coking coal
2. Coke
3. Anthracite
4. Charcoal
5. Peat
6. Bituminous coal

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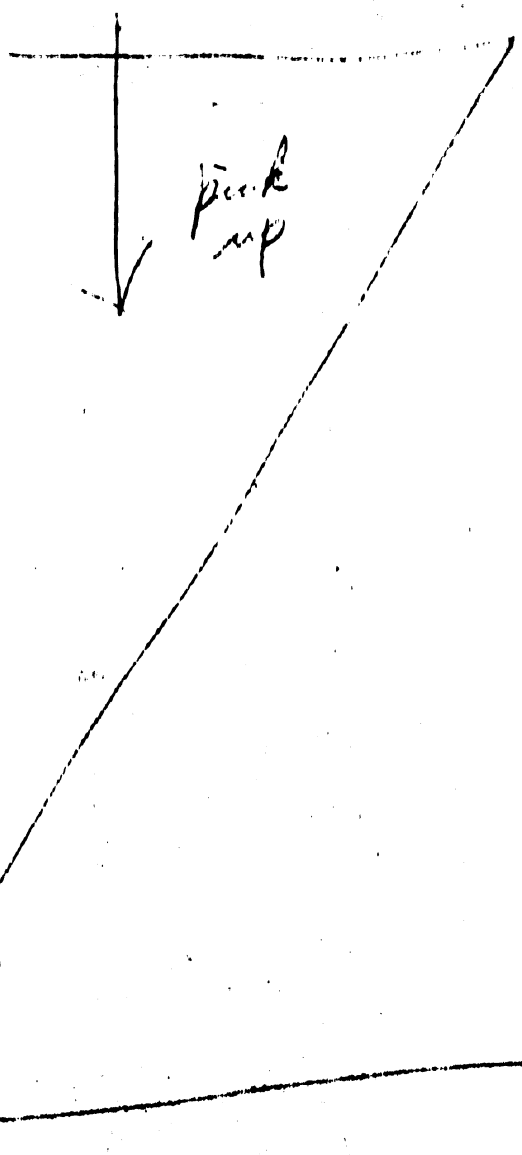
Stocks of the commercial materials sufficient to maintain uninterrupted operation for a period of at least three months and up to a year must be kept sealed in plant warehouses. These stocks are under the sole authority of the Second Section, that is, the apparatus of the Committee on State Reserves.



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VII. Tools

1. Cutting tools (cutting and milling)
2. Measuring instruments (gages, micrometers, sliding calipers, etc.)
3. Meters (for all types of equipment)
4. Electrical instruments
5. Hand tools
6. Specialized instruments (for means of transport, equipment, machines, machine tools, etc.)
7. Drill bits
8. Files
9. Emery

VIII. Equipment

1. Specialized technological equipment (machine tools, production machinery) amounting to about 20 percent of the total capacity of the plant.
2. Engines (up to 25 percent of total capacity)
3. Compressors and other machines
4. Means of transport (automobiles, railroad cars, locomotives, and small trucks)

IX. Armament and Military Equipment

A. Means of transport

1. Railway equipment
2. Motor transport equipment
3. Maritime and river transport equipment
4. Air transport equipment

B. Armament

1. Artillery of all kinds
2. Firearms
3. Tanks
4. Armored cars
5. Airplanes

8

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plant where it is to be used. (Large equipment, such as compressors, engines, large pumps, is put right at the place of installation and is in this case sealed up while small equipment, such as electric motors, is stored in the plant's equipment warehouses.)

This equipment may be used only in time of war if the factory's main equipment breaks down or is damaged and only by special authorization of the organs of the Committee on State Reserves.

B. Standard equipment such as electric motors, small pumps, electrical starting apparatus, etc., is also kept in the warehouses of the Committee on State Reserves in quantities equivalent to 10 percent of the annual requirements of industry.

Ammunition Group

A. Ammunition plants keep reserves of semimanufactures rather than finished goods in their warehouses, for example, shell cases, ~~projectile boiler~~ cartridge cases, fuzes, etc. No more than three months' production is kept.

B. Military stores of all kinds of ammunition, in the amounts set by mobilization plans, are kept in quartermaster depots. The method of storing and renewing stocks is governed by special instructions.

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Methods of Accumulating and Storing Reserves

Groups I, II, III, IV, V, and VI

A. Plants producing items in groups I, II, III, IV, V, and VI are required to have at least a three months' stock of nonferrous metals in special warehouses. (The exact limits of stocks are established individually in each case.)

B. Plants consuming items in groups I, II, III, IV, V, and VI are required to have in special warehouses on the plant grounds, stocks sufficient for continuous production for a period of one to six months.

C. The Committee on State Reserves has its own reserves warehouses where stocks of materials from all groups are kept in sufficient quantity for uninterrupted supply of industry for a period of one month to a year.

In all cases of storage, stocks of each type of material are renewed after a certain period. The storage period for materials customarily varies from one month to two years. During the storage period materials are shipped to industry for use and are replaced by the same quantity of new stocks.

Group VII (Tools)

A. Plants using tools are required to have, in special warehouses, stocks sufficient for uninterrupted (normal) production for a period of a year.

B. Standard tools as, for example, drill bits, cutters, milling cutters, micrometers, rulers, etc., are also kept in warehouses operated by the Committee on State Reserves, in sufficient quantity to assure at least a year's normal work by defense industry.

Group VIII (Equipment)

A. The amount of equipment necessary to the work of a plant under full mobilization is increased by 10 to 50 percent (usually up to 20 percent more than required capacity) and is stored directly at the

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6. Antiaircraft equipment
7. Chemical equipment
8. Medical equipment
9. Mortars
10. Flame-throwing equipment
11. Technical equipment (equipment and instruments for field technical services for all branches of the army)
12. Equipment for administrative servicing of troops
13. Means of communication (telephone and radio)
14. Quartermaster supplies

C. Ammunition

1. Shells of various calibers
2. Bombs of all kinds and ~~calibers~~ sizes
3. Grenades of all kinds and ~~calibers~~ sizes
4. Land mines (stationary and ~~dog-throwing~~ projectile [metatel'nyy])
5. Shrapnel
6. Sea mines
7. Cartridges of various calibers
8. Incendiary, illuminating, and signal supplies

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supply base at the [redacted] Railroad Station

e. Each of the country's industrial centers has its own petroleum supply base.

VI. Solid Fuel

a. Enterprises consuming solid fuel

b. Enterprises producing solid fuel

c. There are central warehouses in every industrial center and as a rule at railroad stations.

VII. Tools

a. Producer enterprises

b. Consumer enterprises

c. Warehouses of the Committee on State Reserves:

Moscow: 1) the town of Reytovo and 2) the Balashikha warehouses of the Committee on State Reserves at the Balashikha station of the Moscow-Gor'kiy Railroad

VIII. Equipment

a. Plants using equipment

b. Warehouses of the Committee on State Reserves

Moscow: 1) the Reytovo supply base and 2) the Balashikha supply base.

IX. Ammunition

a. Ammunition plants

b. Quartermaster depots and proving grounds of the military establishments

Moscow: 1) warehouses of Khoroshevo Serebryannyy Bor (Khoroshevo, Oblast Moscow) 2) the Sofrino Proving Ground and 3) Khoroshevo Proving Ground.

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Location of Warehouses (Stocks) of the Committee on State Reserves

I. Nonferrous Metals

a. In plants producing nonferrous metals

b. In plants consuming nonferrous metals

c. In special warehouses of the Committee on State Reserves:

Moscow: 1) the town of Raytovo on the Moscow-Gor'kiy Railroad (warehouses are located at the railroad station) and the supply base of the People's Commissariat of Nonferrous Metallurgy. 2) the Second Freight Station of the Moscow Belt Line

Sverdlovsk: Freight station No 2

Chelyabinsk: Freight station

Kuybyshev: the river port supply base

II Rare Metals

a In plants consuming rare metals

b. In special warehouses of the Committee on State Reserves:

Moscow: 1) Raytovo and 2) the supply base of the Main Administration of Rare Metals

III. Materials

a. In plants producing materials

b. In plants consuming materials

c. In special warehouses of the Committee on State Reserves (see item I)

IV. Ferrous metals

a. In plants producing ferrous metals

b. In plants consuming ferrous metals

V. Liquid Fuel

a. Enterprises consuming fuel

b. Supply bases

Moscow: 1) Raytovo petroleum supply base, 18 kilometers east on Gor'kovskoye Shosse (Gor'kiy Highway) and 2) Ostekino petroleum

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The system of accumulating and storing state reserves of strategic industrial materials was practically in effect by the beginning of the Second World War.

It should be borne in mind that in the very first months of the war with Germany the system of state reserves did not achieve its purpose for the following reasons:

Despite the fact that the whole plan of organization of state reserves was well-conceived and well-organized, both from the standpoint of accumulating reserves and the strategic location of warehouses, which were placed in such a way that the stocks were dispersed and the warehouses containing them located close to the country's chief industrial centers, (thereby barring large losses of reserves of materials through military action by the enemy and the overloading of transportation facilities), nevertheless strategic stocks were lost for the following reasons:

1. The rapid advance of the enemy in occupying the most important industrial areas of the southern and south-western parts of the USSR resulted in the loss of a large quantity of stocks.

2. As a result of the general disorganized state of USSR industry during the war, a large part of the reserves (and not only reserves but also regular industrial equipment) was lost during evacuation to the eastern part of the country.

3. For these reasons the retained portion of the theoretically calculated quantity of state material reserves proved, under war conditions, so insufficient that they did not have any positive effect on the normal operation of the Soviet economy during the war. The only source of materials resources upon which depended, more or less, the normal work of a part of Soviet industry, was the materials received through Lend-Lease from the United State.

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Thus, the system of state reserves did not achieve its purpose in the USSR in the recent war. Although not badly conceived from a theoretical standpoint, the system of state reserves did not play a very important part in the Soviet economic system during the war.

Chart follows

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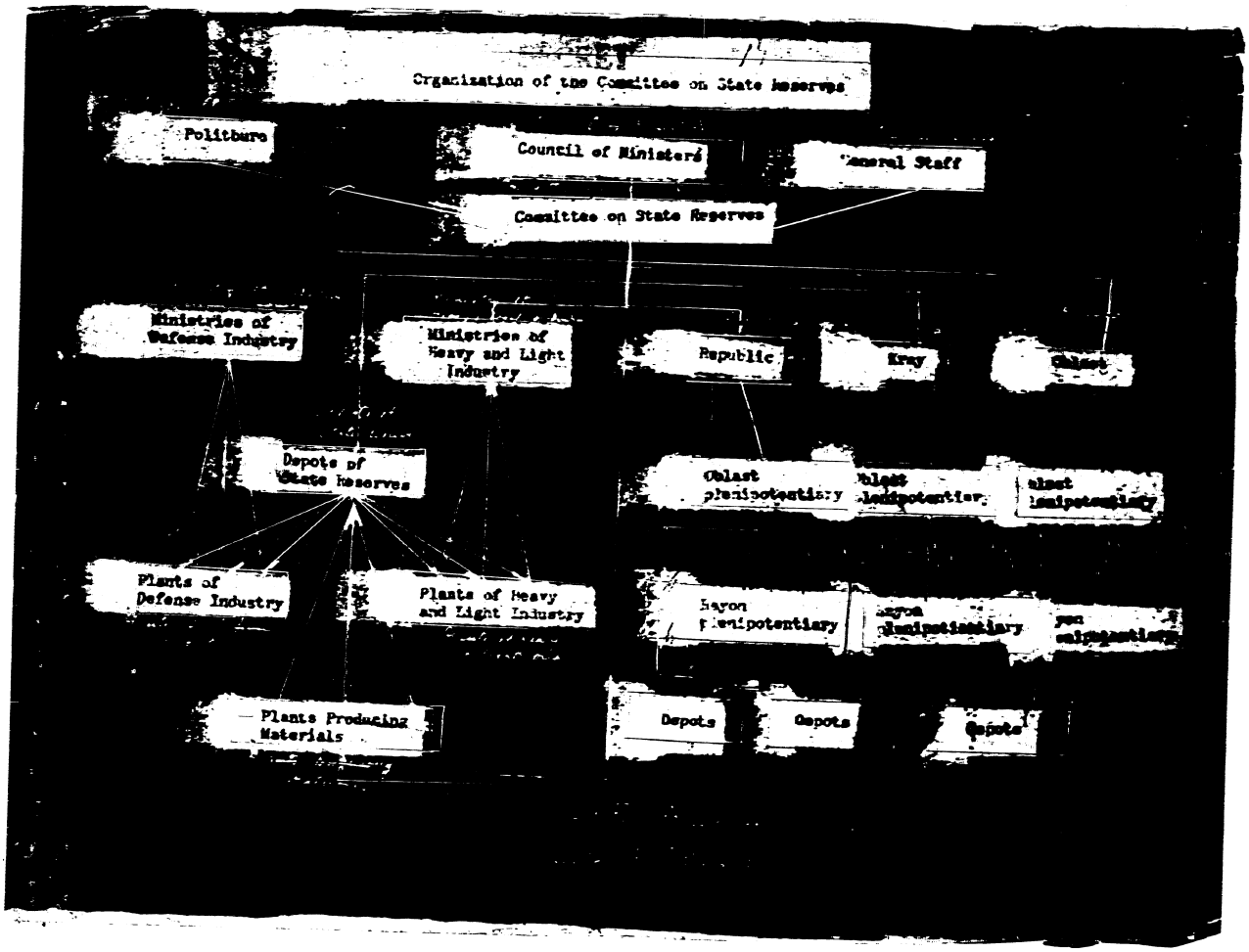

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